

Serial No. 10/520,237  
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P02127WOUS01

REMARKS

Claims 12-30 are pending in the application.

Claims 12-30 are rejected for various reasons under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 12 has been amended to more clearly define the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, claim 12 has been amended to clarify the outer layer's content of aluminium. Support for this clarification may be found in paragraph [0045] of U.S. Pub. No.: 2005/0238893. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment overcomes the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim 27 has been amended to more clearly define the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, claim 27 has been amended to clarify the outer layer's content of aluminium. Support for this clarification may be found in paragraph [0045] of U.S. Pub. No.: 2005/0238893. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment overcomes the rejection of claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 18 and 29 have been amended to more clearly define the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, amended claims 18 and 29 recite, among other aspects, "the outer layer further comprises an element of the group consisting of Hf, Zr, La, Ce and other elements of the Lanthanide group." Support for this amendment may be found in paragraphs [0038], [0047] and [0048] of U.S. Pub. No.: 2005/0238893. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment overcomes the rejection of claims 18 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Minor amendments have been made to various claims to put those claims in better form.

Claim 19 has been cancelled.

Claims 1-11 have been previously cancelled.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to this application applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and allowance of claims 12-18 and 20-30.

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**Conclusion**

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2/7/06

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